



Date: May 15, 2002

To: Inter-Regional Partnership Members

From: IRP Staff

RE: IRP Program - Speaker's Commission on Regionalism

Background

In January 2002 the Speaker's Commission on Regionalism released its final report *The New California Dream: Regional Solutions for 21st Century Challenges*. Nick Bollman, President and CEO of the California Center for Regional Leadership, served as chair for the commission. Mr. Bollman will make a presentation on the findings and recommendations of the report.

Discussion

Representatives of the Bay Area and Central Valley formed the IRP because they realized that collaborative planning was the only way to adequately address the jobs-housing imbalance between the two regions. This approach reflects the underlying foundation of *The New California Dream* report. Isolated, jurisdiction-focused planning is often insufficient to adequately address larger planning issues such as jobs-housing imbalance, lack of affordable housing, and congestion management. The report makes specific recommendations on how state policies and practices should be reformed and aligned to support regional planning efforts.

The IRP serves as a functioning example of the type of collaboration promoted in the report. As the IRP gets ready to set a new agenda following the designation of the Jobs/Housing Opportunity Zones, it may be able to utilize the findings within the report to obtain support for Jobs/Housing Opportunity Zone incentives, funding, or state agency support for new IRP programs.

Requested Action

Develop a priority list of potential IRP issues so staff may conduct preliminary research on the issues as the group determines it's agenda for the next year.